

NCRA Committee Descriptions

Executive Committee (EC):

Membership: The EC is comprised of the chair, chair-elect, past chair; chair of the Multistate Research Committee (MRC), NCRA member who has been in their SAES role for at least 1 year and is not serving in an interim role at their institution, and the Executive Director (ED).

Role of the EC: The EC, through the Chair, executes the programs of the NCRA and provides managerial direction to the Association's ED and Assistant Director (AD). The EC is empowered to handle the immediate affairs of the NCRA between business meetings. A review of the annual performance of the ED and AD is led by the EC, following the evaluation of documentation provided by the ED and AD, and based on input from the Association's members. This performance review meeting is to be held in January each year on a date that allows the majority of NCRA members to participate. Following this meeting, the NCRA Chair drafts annual performance review and rating with input from full NCRA membership and provides the report to the ED, AD, and their university supervisors by mid-February.

Multistate Research Committee (MRC):

Membership: The MRC consists of five members, each serving a three-year term. At least one member is elected each year to succeed the member whose term expires. The members elect their own chair for a one-year term. The ED serves as an ex-officio nonvoting member.

Role of the MRC: The MRC is responsible for recommending to the membership the proper disposition of Multistate Activity Project proposals and Multistate Coordinating Committees in accordance with national and regional priorities. This is done through the commissioning of external reviews, the evaluation of projects and committees, the monitoring of research progress and, as appropriate, establishing multistate priorities via broad-based issues identification and strategic planning. The MRC is also responsible for reviewing annual regional nominations to the ESS' Excellence in Multistate Research Award and making recommendations to the NCRA membership on the winner. Finally, the MRC serves as the review panel for proposals received in response to any NCRA funding opportunities.

Nominations and Awards Committee (NAC):

Membership: The NAC consists of 3 members, each serving a three-year term. To ensure continuity as well as committee turn-over, in the first year of this committee's operation, the three members draw straws for 1, 2, and 3-year terms. The committee selects their chair who remains in this role for at least 2 years to provide continuity. The NCRA ED and AD serve *ex-officio* as Executive Vice-chair and Assistant Vice-chair, respectively (making full committee membership 5), and assist with facilitation of the committee's work, including the AA and award selection processes. If a conflict of interest arises, the committee will replace the conflicted committee member with external ad hoc reviewer, such as a previous award winner or another objective individual associated with the NCRA.

Role of NAC: The NAC works with the NCRA ED/AD to solicit and identify AAs to NC multistate projects. This committee also identifies regional and national level award opportunities, solicits nominations for and recommends the agInnovation NC winner of the agInnovation Excellence in Leadership Award, the agInnovation Agricultural Research Innovation Award of Excellence, and other regional or national award programs of interest to the NCRA.

Resolutions Committee (RC):

Membership: At least one NCRA member is selected for a three-year term that is renewable.

Role of RC: The RC works with the NCRA ED/AD and NCRA directors to collect information and create formal written Resolutions of Appreciations for NCRA directors leaving the organization. The RC may create additional Resolutions to celebrate exceptional service to the NCRA or other applicable activities as identified by NCRA members. Resolutions are read at an NCRA meeting, provided to the director receiving the resolution, and noted in the official meeting minutes.

Roles and Expectations of NCRA Members Serving on Other NCR Committees and Boards

North Central Regional Center for Rural Development (NCRCRD) Board:

Membership: One NCRA member serves as a voting member of the NCRCRD Board for a four-year term that is renewable.

Role of NCRCRD Board: The Board reviews and approves the Center's budget, provides guidance and recommendations on Center activities, and provides final approval on grant awards. The Board meets twice a year (May and December), and the Center provides email updates for the other two quarters.

North Central Regional Aquaculture Center (NCRAC) Board:

Membership: The NCRA ED and the NCRA Director who hosts the NCRAC serve as voting members on the NCRAC Board. Board members serve a 4-year term that is renewable.

Role of NCRAC Board: The NCRAC Board is responsible for overall administration and management of the regional center program; establishes overall regional aquacultural research, development, and extension goals, and allocates fiscal resources to ensure that the center develops strong programs both in research and in extension; and establishes priorities for regional aquacultural research and extension education activities based on inputs from the Industry Advisory Council and Technical Committee and guidance from the National Aquaculture Development Plan. Board members attend one in-person annual meeting each year (typically February) and participate in virtual meetings as needed.

North Central Integrated Pest Management Center (NCIPMC) Steering Committee:

Membership: The NCRA ED serves continuously and one NCRA Director serves for a 3-year term that is renewable (up to 2 terms).

Role of NCIPMC Steering Committee: The NCIPMC Steering Committee provides the general direction of center activities, advises center staff on timely and effective Center management and use of funds, goals, priorities, strategic planning, and partnerships, and contributes to the overall Center vision for IPM in the north central region. Steering committee members attend quarterly virtual meetings and in-person meetings as needed.